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**SUBJ: CHINA'S VIEW OF THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY RELATIONSHIP (U)**

**(U) SUMMARY:** The U.S.-Japan security relationship is the **cornerstone for stability** in the Asia-Pacific region and **should not be viewed as a threat to China.**

**(U) KEY POINTS**

- \* **(U) Japan's militaristic past** is still fresh in the memories of many Chinese
- \* **(U) U.S.-Japan Security Treaty** contributes toward the **maintenance of peace** in region
- \* **(U) April 96 U.S.-Japan joint declaration** reaffirms **commitment to stability** in Asia

**(S) DISCUSSION**

- \* **(U) Japan's militaristic past and previous wartime atrocities** are still remembered by the Chinese people. Because of this, **every action** the Government of Japan takes to improve its **military defensive capability** is viewed from the Chinese perspective as contributing to the return of Japanese militarism.



- \* **(U) The April U.S.-Japan Joint declaration on the security alliance for the 21st Century** stressed the following:
  - \*\* the alliance **represents no fundamental changes** to the U.S.-Japan alliance which is **defensive** in nature and threatens no one
  - \*\* **reaffirmed U.S. and Japan's continued commitment to the maintenance of freedom and the promotion of stability** in the Asia-Pacific Region
  - \*\* The declaration contains **no new missions for the Japanese Self Defense Force** other than increased cooperation in PKO and humanitarian relief
  - \*\* importance of **peaceful resolution of problems** in the region
  - \*\* important that **China play a positive and constructive role** in the region
  - \*\* an interest in **furthering cooperation with China**



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